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Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231, on October 16, 1998.


Alexandra H. Parsons

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In the application of:

Irving BOIME et al.

Serial No.: 08/918,288

Filing Date: 25 August 1997

For: SINGLE CHAIN FORMS OF THE
GLYCOPROTEIN HORMONE
QUARTET

Examiner: L. Spector

Group Art Unit: 1646

AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.111

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

This is in response to an Office action herein mailed 16 September 1998, time for response to which was set to expire 16 October 1998. An election of species was required. A similar requirement was made in copending application 08/853,524 which contains claims directed to the proteins that correspond to the recombinant materials and methods claimed in the present application. In the copending application, compound 1 of Table 1 was elected.

In this application, applicants elect compound 10 of Table 1, wherein amino acids 1-104 of the human FSH- β chain are covalently linked through a linker moiety to the human α subunit.

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Applicants understand that the election of this species is to provide a starting point for prosecution, and that should claims directed to this elected species be allowable, additional species will be examined with a view, ultimately, to examination in the herein application of the generic claims.

The present claims that include the elected species are claims 1, 3-5, 8, 9, 11, 13-15, 18, 19, 21, 23-25, 28, 29, 31, 33-35, 38 and 39.

Applicants look forward to an Office action on the merits. It is assumed that the election represents simply a starting point for searching and that the claims as presently presented will be subject to substantive examination.

In the unlikely event that the transmittal letter is separated from this document and the Patent Office determines that an extension and/or other relief is required, applicant petitions for any required relief including extensions of time and authorizes the Assistant Commissioner to charge the cost of such petitions and/or other fees due in connection with the filing of this document to **Deposit Account No. 03-1952** referencing docket no. 295002005025. However, the Assistant Commissioner is not authorized to charge the cost of the issue fee to the Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: October 16, 1998

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